



CITY OF LOS ANGELES BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Diane Gilbert Jones

Biosolids Regulatory Liaison

Diane.gilbert@lacity.org

(310) 648-5248

ROAD TRAVELED BY THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES IN KERN COUNTY



1994

- Contract executed to transport, apply, and farm with biosolids
- Biosolids applied in Kern County
- 3 management options
 - Land Application (Kern, Riverside, Arizona)
 - Composting (Kern, Los Angeles)
 - Energy recovery (Los Angeles)

1994

- Site previously used chemical fertilizers
- Treated effluent used for irrigation
- Crop production sparse and limited
- Groundwater monitored

1996

- Biosolids applied under federal requirements
- Biosolids met Class B standards and Table 3 pollutant concentration limits
- Kern County began ordinance development process



1998

- Kern adopted interim urgency biosolids ordinance
- Kern established biosolids impact fee
- Development of long-term biosolids management plan
 - Land application
 - Composting
 - Drying
 - Thermal processing
 - Emerging technologies
 - Renewable energy

1999

- Kern adopted an ordinance-banned Class B biosolids/requires Class A
- Began Class A biosolids production process
- Began process to buy farm land in K



1999

- Adopted a Biosolids Policy Statement

- Developed a Biosolids Policy Statement

The City of Los Angeles is committed to:

1) Managing its biosolids in an environmentally sound, socially acceptable, and cost-effective manner;

2) Complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations;

3) Requiring its land appliers to comply with the provisions of the CWEA Manual of Good Practice for Agricultural Land Application of Biosolids;

4) Producing Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids that meet or exceed the requirements in 40 CFR Part 503; and

5) Maintaining a verified Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS) that conforms to the National Biosolids Partnership EMS program requirements.

Revised and adopted by Los Angeles City Council December 10, 2004

2000

- Kern County Biosolids Ordinance became effective
- Implemented a Class A project
- Developed and implemented a Biosolids EMS
- Purchased farm in Kern County



2001

- Implemented Biosolids EMS
- Made improvements at farm
- Continued to meet Kern's Class B ordinance and worked with County on addressing public concerns
- Final judgment issued in Class B ordinance lawsuit
- Released RFP for biosolids management options

2002

- Produced Class A biosolids
- Approved Biosolids EMS
- Applied for Kern County Class A biosolids permit
- Kern County updated existing biosolids ordinance with new Class A requirements
- Kern County directed staff to address groundwater concerns

2003

- Kern County issued Class A permit to contractor
- Applied Class A biosolids at Green Acres
- Biosolids EMS audited and verified



**Independent sampling
of Class A material**

2003

- Admitted into National Biosolids Partnership EMS program



2004

- Opened outreach center at farm
- Kern County Water Agency began



2004

- News media targeted biosolids land application in Kern County
 - Retained Biosolids EMS certification
 - Continued process to develop alternate biosolids use options
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2005

- Continued compliance with Class A ordinance
- Responded to public inquiries and media requests
- Hosted BBQ at farm

- P
- K
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2005

- Judgment rendered in Class B ordinance lawsuit appeal- Kern County required to prepare an Environment Impact Report
- Legislative bill authored to ban importation of biosolids

**Bill Number: SB 926 INTRODUCED and
SIGNATURES CERTIFIED to ban biosolids
land application in Kern County**
An act to add Section 40065 to the Public Resources Code, and to add Section 13228.17 to the Water Code, relating to sewage sludge.

Biosolids Initiative Language

Prohibits the land application of biosolids in the ***unincorporated areas*** of Kern County. “Biosolids” are treated solid, semi-solids, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of sewage in a wastewater treatment facility. Land application of any ***material containing biosolids is prohibited immediately***. In addition, the ban prohibits the discharge of biosolids to surface waters, and surface water drainage courses and prohibits leaching or other introduction of biosolids to groundwater aquifers. ***Biosolids, packaged***, for routine retail sales, through regular retail outlets, which are primarily used for residential purposes in limited amounts are permissible and ***are excluded from the ban***.

2006

- Continued Class A biosolids ordinance compliance



2006

- Continued developing long-term biosolids management options
- Kern County requested relief from the Courts for preparing an EIR
 - Renewable Energy Projects
 - Drying Technologies
- Ballot initiative (Measure E) passed
 - Tree Initiative
 - Energy Farms



Future

- Land application at Green Acres
- Investigation of alternate reuse options
- Land application in Arizona
- Use of biosolids at Terminal Island in underground injection project